

go fishing than spend their time talking to me—I want to express in the RECORD the eternal appreciation I have for the service of the 1st Brigade Combat Team of the 34th Infantry.

You gave up time, income, and family togetherness. You risked everything so all our lives could be safer and more free from fear. When your Nation called you to serve, you didn't take a poll, you didn't equivocate, you didn't even question why. You served because you were called to and you did your duty with perseverance, excellence and strength. Your active duty service is now complete, but our debt of gratitude will never end. On behalf of all Minnesotans, we welcome you home.

Thank you and may God Bless you.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

150TH ANNIVERSARY OF R&R MARKET

• Mr. SALAZAR. Mr. President, I wish to commemorate the 150th anniversary of Colorado's oldest family-owned business—the R&R Market in the town of San Luis, in Costilla County, CO. My family has ranches and farmed in the San Luis Valley for five generations just a few miles west of San Luis. I grew up knowing the R&R Market as one of the treasures of the valley, a great symbol of our shared history and heritage.

Colorado was built upon the ingenuity, hard work, and entrepreneurial spirit of people like Don José Dario Gallegos, who traveled from the San Luis Valley by mule train over the Santa Fe Trail to trade centers in St. Louis and Independence, Missouri. Don Dario Gallegos was among the founders of the town of San Luis in 1851 and helped establish some of the first water rights in the area. The irrigation ditches—or acequias—that he and the settlers dug are still in use today.

When Don Dario Gallegos opened his store in San Luis in 1857, Colorado was still a young territory, and statehood was nearly 20 years away.

Though the physical foundation of Don José Dario Gallegos's original adobe structure would be destroyed in an 1895 fire, the people of San Luis came together to form the indestructible foundation rooted in a commitment to community and family that sustains the R&R Market to this very day.

It is this commitment that the people of San Luis will celebrate on June 30, 150 years after the original R&R Market opened its doors. I congratulate the Gallegos descendants—who still own and operate the market—and the people of San Luis on this momentous anniversary.

I have a painting of the R&R Market hanging in my Washington, DC, office. It serves as an everyday reminder of the place I come from—a place where community and family mean everything, a place where the spirit of Colo-

rado was born and continues to thrive. I am honored to represent that place and the people who come from it. •

TRIBUTE TO GEORGE M. VAN TASSEL

• Mr. SHELBY. Mr. President, I wish to pay tribute to George M. Van Tassel, who passed away on Monday, June 18, 2007. For 13 years, George served as mayor of my hometown, Tuscaloosa, AL. He was a personal friend of mine and along with the entire town of Tuscaloosa, I mourn his passing.

In the 1930s George moved south from New York to attend the University of Alabama School of Law. There, he met a fellow student, Juarine Berrey, with whom he quickly fell in love. They married in 1934. Several years after his graduation in 1939, George was drafted by the U.S. Army to serve in the European theater during World War II. On D-Day, George was among the soldiers who landed on the beach at Normandy, France.

Upon returning to the States, George began his law practice. In 1956, he was elected to serve as mayor of Tuscaloosa, filling the unexpired term of mayor Hal McCall. Although George oversaw many changes that took place in Tuscaloosa during his three terms as mayor, perhaps his most notable achievement was his initiative to dam the North River and create a 5,885-acre water supply reservoir we call Lake Tuscaloosa.

In 1969, George decided not to run for reelection. An avid hunter and fisherman, he wanted more time to enjoy his hobbies. He returned to the law, managing a successful practice until he retired at age 75.

George is loved and will be missed by his daughter, Linda Ayers of Tuscaloosa, and his son, George M. Van Tassel, Jr., of Birmingham. He was an inspiration to many and will be remembered for his dedication and many contributions to the city of Tuscaloosa. I ask this entire Senate to join me in recognizing and honoring the life of George M. Van Tassel. •

REPORT ON THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO THE WESTERN BALKANS AS DECLARED IN EXECUTIVE ORDER 13219 OF JUNE 26, 2001—PM 19

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:

To the Congress of the United States:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a

notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent the enclosed notice to the *Federal Register* for publication stating that the Western Balkans emergency is to continue in effect beyond June 26, 2007. The most recent notice continuing this emergency was published in the *Federal Register* on June 23, 2006, 71 FR 36183.

The crisis constituted by the actions of persons engaged in, or assisting, sponsoring, or supporting (i) extremist violence in the Republic of Macedonia and elsewhere in the Western Balkans region, or (ii) acts obstructing implementation of the Dayton Accords in Bosnia or United Nations Security Council Resolution 1244 of June 10, 1999, in Kosovo, that led to the declaration of a national emergency on June 26, 2001, in Executive Order 13219 and to amendment of that order in Executive Order 13304 of May 28, 2003, has not been resolved. The acts of extremist violence and obstructionist activity outlined in Executive Order 13219, as amended, are hostile to U.S. interests and pose a continuing unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and foreign policy of the United States. For these reasons, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared with respect to the Western Balkans and maintain in force the comprehensive sanctions to respond to this threat.

GEORGE W. BUSH.

THE WHITE HOUSE, June 22, 2007.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

At 11:53 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill:

S. 1352. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 127 East Locust Street in Fairbury, Illinois, as the "Dr. Francis Townsend Post Office Building".

At 2:03 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Brandon, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 2764. An act making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2771. An act making appropriations for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 2764. An act making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs for the fiscal